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**KELLY ROWLAND'S
EVOLVING STYLE**
WHAT LOOKS BEST IS
NOT ALWAYS 'IN' {page 23}



GRADE IT
SCHOOL GETS IN THE
WAY OF FRANCO'S
LOVE LIFE {page 22}



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SEE PAGE 3



Revvling. Up

► IndyCar Series driver James Hinchcliffe is flanked by Miss Indy finalists Maria Young, left, Dayna Lyle, centre, and Deanna Wachowicz at the Edmonton International Airport yesterday.

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

Edmonton abuzz with Indy excitement

Drivers and their cars, which convoyed through the city's downtown core yesterday, are arriving for the Edmonton Indy, taking place tomorrow through Sunday at the City Centre Airport. Boston Bruins defenceman and Edmonton native Johnny Boychuk has been named grand marshal of the race. Hinchcliffe, a rookie driver in the series, sits 15th in the IndyCar standings with 158 points and is not too far off the leader for top rookie honours.

Police seek help solving \$500K heist

- Clothing, electronics stolen from truck
- Thieves likely experienced: RCMP

Investigators are seeking help with a heist seemingly ripped right from the pages of a Hollywood script.

Police say two individuals stole a tractor-trailer, hooked it up to a transport truck and made off with \$500,000 worth of goods.

The incident took place in Calgary around midnight on June 25 at 5353-72nd Ave. S.E. RCMP found the truck nearly two weeks later abandoned on East Lake Road in Airdrie.

"It wasn't done on a whim by any means," said RCMP Cpl. Shawn Boutin. "I would suggest that they have done it before, just for the fact that how do you move all of the stuff in the back of that trailer? You have got DVDs, clothes — and where do you sell that stuff?"

Phil Amundson, an employee at Sharky's Pawn Shop in Calgary, confirmed it would be difficult to offload the stolen merchandise at a shop like his.

"The amount of information we

The loot

- The stolen items belonged to companies such as Bell, Rogers, Telus, Disney, Sony, Warner Bros., The Source, FCUK, ESPRIT, Aritzia and lululemon athletica.
- When buying something from an individual, a pawn shop must enter two forms of identification, a phone number and a picture of the item into a database that police can access.
- RCMP Cpl. Shawn Boutin said investigators expect to release more information in a few days.

have to take from someone is quite ridiculous," he said. "Everything gets entered into our system in detail."

Representatives of Andlauer Transportation Services, which owns the stolen truck, did not return repeated requests for comment. ● JEREMY NOLAIS



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Council hopes to grow smart

City hall is looking to set out a clear plan for future growth in Calgary.

Ahead of the 2012-2014 budget, which will be approved in November, members of the land use, planning and transportation committee discussed ways to collaborate with the development industry and citizen stakeholders.

"It's going to provide clarity for industry," said Michael Flynn of the Urban Development Institute, "provide clarity for the way that council is going to make decisions and clarity for the way that administration interprets the applications." ● KATIE TURNER

SlutWalk hoping to take step

After being cancelled last month, SlutWalk Calgary may finally come to fruition later this summer.

SlutWalk began in Toronto following comments by a police officer who said women shouldn't dress like "sluts."

The event was set for Calgary but due to liability issues and other logistical problems, it was cancelled. However, organizers have launched a new website proclaiming that the walk is tentatively scheduled for August 20 near Eau Claire Market.

An application has been submitted to the City of Calgary. ● METRO



Options for increasing transit revenue include lowering fare discounts, reviewing park-and-ride charges and lobbying the province for additional funding.

'Somebody has to pay,' says Calgary Transit

- Several options for increasing revenue will be presented to council
- Transit's goal is to recoup 55 per cent of operating costs from customers



KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

With ridership numbers levelling out and revenue goals not being met, Calgary Transit has to come up with additional cash.

"We can raise fares, raise taxes or we can cut service," said transit planning manager Neil McKendrick. "The bottom message for this whole thing is somebody has to pay."

Transit rider Pat Ross

said she'd rather see an increase to fare prices than lose service hours.

"I'm sure no one is happy with that, but it's cheaper than parking downtown," she said.

Fellow commuter Ali said she thinks the \$3 park-and-ride should be instituted again as a way to increase revenue.

"I don't mind paying," she said.

Aldermen are split between hiking fares and slashing service.

"The fares, I think, are at a point where the fares are adequate at where they should be at," said Ald. Ray Jones.

"If you raise them any higher, you're going to end with people saying 'It's cheaper to drive my car.'"

However, Ald. Andre Chabot argued service hours and fare increases should be added at an incremental rate.

Fare prices will likely be set this fall after council provides direction to Cal-

Transit costs

- In 2010, Calgary Transit's annual operating cost was \$277.5 million.
- According to a transit report, since 2007, the average cost of a passenger trip has increased by 23 per cent while the average fare has climbed by only 12 per cent.

gary Transit, according to McKendrick.

1

news


Crash in value brings new scrutiny to Bitcoin's attempt at alternative online currency. Scan code for story.

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► Greg Keelor, centre, and Blue Rodeo perform this weekend at the Calgary Folk Music Festival.

UNDER A SKY OF BLUE

Blue Rodeo headlines this weekend's Calgary Folk Music Festival. Greg Keelor, one of the band's founding members, sat down with Metro to speak about Folk.

What does this folk fest mean to Blue Rodeo?

"It's a nice gig. We've had some great shows here and we always enjoy it."

Do you have a song that makes you think of Alberta?

"Western Skies. I lived in Lake Louise during the '70s and I fell totally in

love with the mountains."

What was your best show in Calgary?

"I actually remember this one because it was weird. We played Calaway Park 25 years ago and they had cartoon-character cutouts everywhere and the only people there were parents and children and we'd just cut our first album, so nobody know who we were."

● TODD VAUGHAN

Hospital security under fire

- Edmonton psychiatric facility sees two patients bolt in two weeks
- Union, employees cite understaffing as a factor in the escapes



SHELLEY WILLIAMSON
@METRONWS.CA

In the wake of two patients escaping Alberta Hospital in two weeks, Health and Wellness Minister Gene Zwozdesky is calling for a security probe.

"I immediately ordered a review of protocols and procedures, hopefully to find out why this happened and ensure it doesn't happen again," Zwozdesky said yesterday.

Two weeks ago, Melissa Ekkelenkamp, 44, walked away from the Edmonton mental-health facility. On Tuesday, Douglas Campbell, 32, made a daring escape.

Campbell scaled a three-metre wall during a supervised basketball game, said Marianne Stewart, vice-

president of continuing care and mental health with Alberta Health Services, Edmonton zone.

"This is a hospital where patients need exercise, like everyone else," Stewart said, adding that Campbell then "sprinted to the wall and leaped over."

The six-foot-four, 220-pound man outran staff and police, she said.

Zwozdesky said review will cover staff and patient-monitoring procedures.

Guy Smith, president of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, said understaffing at Alberta Hospital is nothing new.

"It has always been a concern for us to make sure there is an adequate level of staff," he said.

One staffer said employees signed mandatory non-

Sad litany



► Douglas Campbell

► **Melissa Ekkelenkamp, 44**, walked away from Alberta Hospital on July 6 despite family members being told she would be checked every 15 minutes and not let outside unescorted. She has not been seen since.

► **Lorraine Adolph, 68**, a schizophrenic patient, died

after being let out alone for a cigarette on Dec. 4, 2008. She was found a week later, frozen to death, 800 metres from where she was last seen. A fatality inquiry concluded last month.

► **Tim Dawson, 42**, who was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and had memory loss, was let out on a day pass to a group home on July 15, 1999. His body was found 10 months later on the shore of the North Saskatchewan River near Two Hills.

► **The latest person to escape** is Douglas Campbell.

disclosure agreements after Ekkelenkamp's disappearance on July 6. The employee also said they

were told hospital security would increase, but said there seems to be no change yet.

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Determined Filipino family ignores skeptics to succeed in Canada

When Erick Alfonso meets immigrants who feel overwhelmed, he gives them hope by telling his own family's story. In fact, the Manila native and his wife achieved personal success in a remarkably short time, by ignoring skeptics who scoffed at their Canadian dreams.

Now working as a Manager of Customer Service at Scotiabank in Calgary, Alberta, Erick remembers how friends discouraged them from migrating to Canada with their five young children.

"They told us that you need Canadian experience to find a job," recalls the former IT project manager at a Philippine bank. "But we decided to try because we knew it was a good country to raise our kids."

Upon arrival in Canada in 2006, the Alfonsos discovered that many Filipino compatriots were juggling low paying jobs to survive. While Erick also took a temporary factory job to pay the bills, he refused to give up hope.

"A friend told me to open my first bank account at Scotiabank, and the teller was so helpful that I decided to submit my resumé," recounts Erick. To his amazement, the branch manager hired him within a month as a casual teller, and two months later, gave him a full-time customer support role.

"I was lucky that Scotiabank gave me the chance to prove myself," notes Erick, who has risen through the ranks and now serves many Asian customers at Calgary's Castleridge Centre Branch. "I can relate to them because I remember arriving with no bank account and no permanent address. The Scotiabanker explained everything to me, and I try to do the same for others today."

For example, Erick recommends the **Scotiabank StartRight® Program**¹ for Newcomers, which includes a free day-to-day bank account for one year², a wide range of VISA® card options³ and a number of other customized services and benefits. He also provides plenty of first-hand financial advice.

"Since many newcomers arrive with personal savings, I help them invest their savings wisely, including short-term investments such as a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA), which lets them earn tax-free income that they can access later for other needs," says Erick.

He also explains the importance of building a Canadian credit history. "Some newcomers are afraid to use a credit card, but I tell them how it can help them achieve other goals if they use it responsibly."

Erick also gives pep talks on job searches, based on his experience and that of his wife, Maria Rosario, who within a year moved from a temporary accounting job to accounting manager with a local firm.

"We didn't do anything special, but we were determined. By believing in ourselves and supporting each other, we got through each difficulty," says Erick. "It is possible – If you show what you can do, you can build the right connections and open the door to a new life in Canada."

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JEREMY
NOLAÏS
@METRONEWS.CA

Deemed "insensitive" and "sexist" by some, a Calgary radio station has announced the winner of a summertime contest offering plastic surgery as its top prize.

Avery Mitchell, a local musician, will go under the knife after garnering 76 per cent of the online vote for 90.3 AMP Radio's "Breast Summer Ever" contest.

Mitchell was born male but today lives as a transgender person.

"In Canada, I am not



► AMP Radio contest
winner Avery Mitchell.

given any health care
for being transgendered

and I have to pay out of my own pocket for these procedures," Mitchell said in a release. "Having breasts would help complete me as a person."

AMP morning host Buzz Bishop said while the contest certainly had some detractors it was a worthwhile endeavour nonetheless.

"Radio stations, as a general rule, are always trying to give away that 'I really want it, but can't afford it' prize," he said.

AMP reports votes poured in for the contest from "every corner of the globe."

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Crisis in Somalia worsening

► Worst food security crisis in 20 years: UN ► In some areas, six people are dying every day

Tens of thousands of Somalis are feared dead in the world's worst famine in a generation, the United Nations said yesterday, and the U.S. said it will allow \$28 million in emergency funds to be spent in areas controlled by al-Qaida-linked militants as long as the fighters do not interfere with aid distributions.

Exhausted, rail-thin women are stumbling into refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia with dead babies and bleeding feet, having left weaker family members behind.

The crisis is the worst since 1991-92, when hundreds of thousands of Somalis starved to death, said Mark Bowden, the UN's official in charge of humanitarian aid in Somalia. That famine prompted intervention by an international peacekeeping force, but it eventually pulled out after two American Black Hawk

Dangerous land

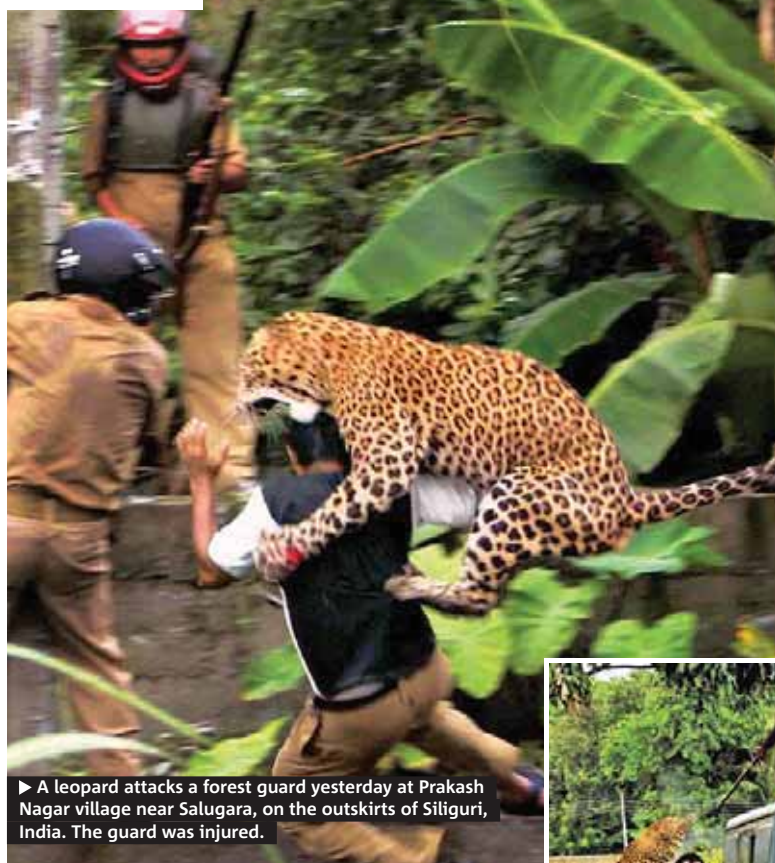
- Somalia is the most dangerous country in the world to work in, according to the UN's World Food Program, which has lost 14 relief workers in the past few years.
- Kidnappings, killings and attacks on aid convoys occur frequently.
- Two years ago WFP pulled out of Islamist-controlled southern Somalia after the rebels demanded cash payments.

helicopters were shot down in 1993.

Since then, Western nations have mainly sought to contain the threat of terrorism from Somalia — an anarchic nation where the weak government battles Islamic militants on land and pirates hijack ships for millions of dollars at sea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wild. Beast



► A leopard attacks a forest guard yesterday at Prakash Nagar village near Salugara, on the outskirts of Siliguri, India. The guard was injured.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leopard battles village

A leopard that mauled 11 people in a fierce showdown with Indian villagers died of knife wounds after being captured yesterday. Villagers used knives, stones and batons to beat back the snarling, leaping cat. The people are recovering from their injuries, mostly swipes from the cat's claws. Leopards are protected in India though more are straying into villages for food.



Fugitive in Canada ordered released

His deportation may be only days away and an immigration board official agrees Lai Changxing is a flight risk who likely consorted with criminals, but the Chinese fugitive has been ordered released in Vancouver.

Still, Lai's freedom may be short-lived as the Federal Court of Canada hears an application to stay his deportation order today. If turned down, Lai could be on a plane back to China as early as next week.

Lai is wanted in China on allegations he was the kingpin in a massive smuggling operation that siphoned millions from the government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Earthquake rocks Central Asia

A magnitude-6.1 quake killed at least 14 people in a heavily populated valley in Central Asia yesterday, emergency officials said.

Almost all the casualties were in Uzbekistan, where officials confirmed 13 deaths. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief



New Canucks to be stripped of citizenship

FAKERS. The federal government intends to revoke the citizenship of at least 1,800 people who used fraudulent means to become Canadians.

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney, above, says most of the targeted individuals were counselled by unscrupulous immigration consultants.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds paid up — but too late

CASH CRUNCH. Dozens of

tourism projects across the country were delayed and got stuck with hefty bills because a key federal program was slow getting cash to them.

The Marquee Tourism Events Program, a \$100-million fund set up in 2009 as part of the Harper government's recession-fighting strategy, doled out money too late for about half the projects it funded.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Declare your guns, please

HIDDEN CARGO. Canadian border guards are telling Americans: Declare your guns before entering Canada.

In the last week, border guards seized 10 loaded handguns, a shotgun and ammunition at B.C. border points.

Seven Americans were either charged or sent home.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Juno Beach power struggle

► The enemy now: wind turbines ► Veterans say they will destroy sanctity of site where 359 Canadians died

Veterans are fighting a new battle of Juno Beach.

The vets are angry over a French plan to install towering wind turbines off the coast and within sight of the beach where thousands of Canadians fought a bloody battle in the Second World War.

"I think it's a disgusting affair," said Jack Martin, who was among the Canadians who stormed Juno Beach during the D-Day landings of 1944.

"I saw so many of my buddies and friends die on Juno Beach that I figure it is very hallowed ground."

Martin, 87, said the turbines might take away from the sombre historical significance of the site.

Retired major Roy Eddy, 86, says it's important to keep the memory of Juno Beach alive. "I'd like

► A piper plays a lament overlooking Juno Beach, where the Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe was launched.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



to forget about it, but I don't want to," said the veteran, who was 20 when he lost many friends there.

"None of us slept for about 72 hours, the noise and the sound was just earth shattering."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winds of change

► The French government says it is receiving tenders for more than 1,000 wind turbines off the country's northwestern coast, including at Courseulles-sur-mer, where Juno Beach is located.

► The entire project is eventually predicted to power more than 4.5 million homes.

► Veterans Affairs Canada says it "understands and shares" the concerns of those who fought for freedom.

► "We wouldn't see it appropriate to develop on the actual site where the battle of Juno occurred," said a spokesperson for Veterans Affairs Minister Steven Blaney.

► The Juno Beach Centre, which is at the site itself, has decided to accept the French government's proposal.

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LM OTERO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air fleet renewed

- ▶ Order includes Airbus A320 and Boeings 737 jets
- ▶ Pressure on airlines to upgrade craft: Analysts

American Airlines is buying at least 460 new planes over the next five years from Airbus and Boeing in a record order that breaks Boeing's exclusive grip on American's fleet.

American said yesterday it will buy 260 planes from Airbus, 200 from rival Boeing Co., and perhaps hundreds more. It expects the new jets to provide savings

in fuel costs. American's current fleet is among the least fuel-efficient.

The deal is a major boost for Airbus, which hadn't won an order from American since the 1980s. Boeing did salvage one of its biggest sales ever.

The jets carry a sticker price of more than \$38 billion US, although big airlines often get discounts.

Gerard Arpey, the chairman and CEO of American's parent, AMR Corp., called it "a watershed event certainly for our company and indeed for the airline industry."

AMR also announced that it plans to spin off regional carrier American Eagle as a separate company in another cost-cutting move. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Baird sees China as potential friend

ALEXANDER F. YUAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird says Canada-China relations are warming and can be further improved by face-to-face dialogue.

Baird finished a four-day trip to China yesterday after meetings with senior government officials and business leaders.

In a conference call from Shanghai, Baird said relations between the two countries have entered a new era in recent years and he wants to build on that.

Chinese relations cooled in the early years of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government. A Harper meeting with the Dalai Lama in 2007 irked Chinese authorities, who routinely revile the Tibetan spiritual leader as a separatist who wants to split Tibet from China.



While there are differences of opinion on issues such as human rights, Baird said it's better to discuss things face-to-face than to stand back and preach.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

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WE INTERRUPT THIS BROADCAST TO APOLOGIZE

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO



over us.

Unless I missed a memo, we in the media (especially TV) are supposed to breathlessly cover this as a burgeoning health crisis. It's just the way things are done. Where are the slow-motion close-ups of a suspicious-looking skeeter? The catchy title like Mosquitopocalypse? The news anchor solemnly asking, "How worried should we be?" as if worrying would be useful.

I've been noticing the calm, level-headed way the media has reported the West Nile virus this summer, and I'd just like to say I'm sorry.

I don't know what's come

"The coverage has been a reasonable reflection of reality. So, again, I apologize."

IC. This was the time-proven journalistic method used with Mad Cow, SARS and H1N1. I guess West Nile's been around long enough that people are getting all "rational." Well, I can't let that happen.

Because if it did, we in the media would be stuck writing about softwood lumber or debt ceilings or, God help me, Brad Pitt. If I have to write one more word about a Beckham baby or the latest crop of orphans that Brangelina are scooping up with a backhoe, I may scream.

And you, gentle reader? You'd be forced to read it. So keep in mind we are doing you a favour when we warn you about:

West Nile and You: Partners in Death — a Q&A you and your family need to read (if you love them).

Q: How can I tell if West Nile is in my area?

A: Many wild birds spread the virus, and their deaths are a good harbinger of the disease, which leads to this easy-to-remember West Nile saying: See a live bird? Kill it. See a dead bird? Panic.

Q: What if I get it?

A: Symptoms often include headache, body aches and skin rash. If you come down with any of these symptoms, kiss a crow and see if it dies.

Q: Anything else I can do?

A: Go about your daily routine, but remain vigilant. Ask your political leaders to establish mosquito no-fly zones. Watch for large swarms flying in a skull-and-crossbones formation. Wear burqas or Stormtrooper costumes. Reassure your children by showing them films where humans reign victorious over insects, such as Arachnophobia and Them! Pray daily.

Q: How worried should I be?

A: We'll tell you exactly how worried, right after this.

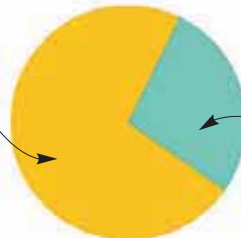
Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays



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ANOTHER STEP

Worth Mentioning

TERRORISM. An al-Qaida affiliate says it plans to roll out what some have called a Disney-like animated cartoon aimed at recruiting children to the terror network.

Scenes from the proposed short film show young boys dressed in battle fatigues and participating in raids, killings and terror plots. It is the latest attempt by the terror organization to use multimedia to draw in potential recruits.

News of the animated film was announced by a group called Abu al-Laith al-Yemen on the Arabic-language al-Shamouk jihadist website, the London-based Quilliam Foundation reported yesterday. Quilliam, which was formed by former jihadists and now aims to stamp out extremism, said it appears the group is affiliated with al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

"It's a Disney-like film aimed at kids that tells stories of the Prophet, stories of holy wars and anti-Western propaganda," said Noman Benotman, a former jihadist with links to al-Qaida who is now an analyst at Quilliam.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Mastered your skinny jeans? Squeeze into this house

Think your house is small? Polish architect Jakub Szczesny has turned the popular notion of "size matters" on its head with his design of the world's skinniest house in Warsaw, Poland.

Located in an alleyway between an office tower from the 1960s and an apartment

building, the livable, four-storey house measures roughly 10 metres long and 1.5 metres wide.

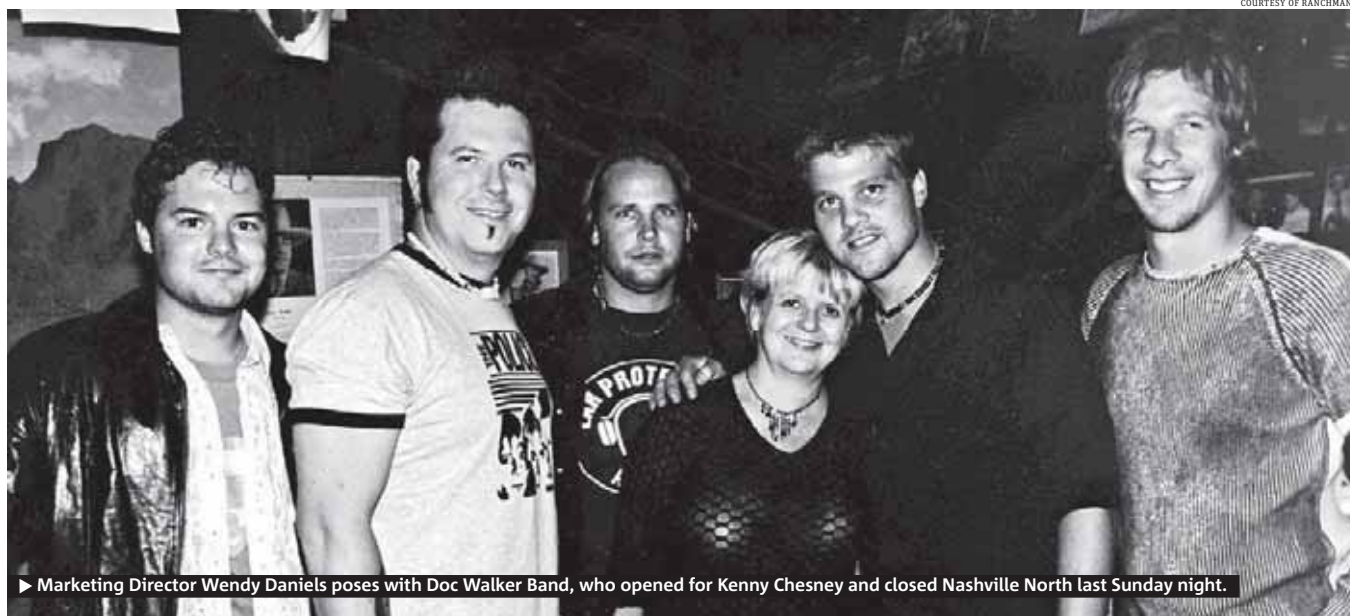
The home is being built for Israeli

writer and filmmaker Etgar Keret, who will use the space primarily as his studio. Since Keret lives most of the time in Tel Aviv, there is talk of the house being used as an artist's residence when he's not occupying it, Szczesny told the Toronto Star.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



► A rendering of what the house will look like.



► Marketing Director Wendy Daniels poses with Doc Walker Band, who opened for Kenny Chesney and closed Nashville North last Sunday night.

2

scene

Stampede survivor

► Wendy Daniels has been riding the bucking wave of the Calgary festival for 26 years now

BACKSTAGE PASS

JENNIFER LARAWAY
METRO CALGARY



Wendy Daniels has survived another Stampede, all 10 days.

It's a title rarely achieved, let alone for 26 years straight. Daniels first moved back to Calgary to rebuild her spirit. Little did she know, she would be part of building a local legend.

"I had just split up from my boyfriend in Nanton,

moved back to Calgary and needed a job quickly," says Daniels who has been with the infamous Ranchman's for the better part of their 40 year history.

"I assisted Harris (as in Harris Dvorkin, president and owner of Ranchman's) in booking bands and doing a couple of promotions. I seemed to have a knack for it and he promoted me to marketing director."

So needless to say, Daniels has planned and survived a Stampede or two. Her advice to make it through the 10 days?

"Pace yourselves and get as much rest as you can,"

she says.

It's a discipline that's served her well in an industry that burns so many people out, party goes included.

There isn't much Ranchman's hasn't seen during Stampede.

"We use the expression 'If it ain't Ranchmans... it ain't real'" says Daniels.

She's referring to everything from the entertainment to the company they keep.

Daniels has booked some serious talent, Stampede or not, including Keith Urban, Shania Twain, Kenny Chesney, Emerson Drive, and Paul Brandt.

Yes, Daniels has met them all and is even on a first name basis with most, but you wouldn't know it by talking to her.

She's very down to earth and always working behind the scenes to make sure the organization is positioned well in the hospitality industry.

She says the secret to her survival success is planning well in advance. Starting in December, Ranchman's will already have talent booked for the upcoming Stampede and they start the hiring fair for tripling their staff.

Hey... that's one way to beat the four hour line-up.

Ranchman's

The background details on Ranchman's

► Details Ranchman's is the official hospitality location of the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association. Watch for 2011 Stampede performers Six West and Codie Prevost, who are on the cusp of superstardom. Ranchman's first opened their doors April 28th 1972.

To see what Ranchman's has lined up all year round, visit ranchmans.com.

Hospitalized



A spokesman for R. Kelly says the R&B singer is in the hospital after emergency throat surgery. Kelly publicist Allan Mayer said yesterday that doctors drained an abscess on one of Kelly's tonsils and that the singer will be "laid up indefinitely."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Despite fears, Chris Evans savors moment as Captain America: The First Avenger

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Comic-Con the real thing

► A sneak peek at the annual pop culture mega-gathering ► Metro runs down who will be attending



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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Comic-Con, the annual mecca of pop culture, returns to San Diego this

weekend, with more than 130,000 fans and fanatics flooding the city to celebrate the comics, movies, TV shows and stars they love. What's surprising folks this year, though, is who won't be there: De-

spite releases slated next year for two of the world's biggest superheroes, Batman and Superman, there won't be panels for the Dark Knight Rises or the Man of Steel.

And as for Marvel Enter-

tainment's hero-packed the Avengers, while Captain America (Chris Evans) and the movie's director, Joss Whedon, will be in attendance for other reasons, the studio insists there's nothing planned

for the star-studded 2012 summer tent-pole. (The superhero team-up stars Evans, Robert Downey Jr., Mark Ruffalo, Scarlett Johansson, Jeremy Renner, Samuel L. Jackson and Chris Hemsworth.)

Some studios and directors, including Warner Bros. and Disney, have claimed they'll be sitting out the convention altogether, suggesting the massive festival's power might be waning.



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What to watch out for

► Here's a guide to what Metro is most excited about at this year's ultimate nerd-fest

MOVIES

The Adventures of Tin Tin
While the motion-capture animation on display in the movie's trailer is cause for concern, the characters and books were such childhood favourites that we're still giddy with excitement.

Besides, the combined might of Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson is certainly call for optimism.

The Amazing Spider-Man
While it may seem a bit soon for a series reboot, we're excited to see what director Marc Webb has

done with the series that ushered in the reign of comic book movies almost 10 years ago.

The words "grittier" and "edgier" have been tossed about, which isn't a great sign, but star Andrew Garfield hasn't disappointed us yet.

Immortals

Visionary director Tarsem Singh (the Fall) heads to ancient Greece to sprinkle some stardust on 300 with a cast that includes new Superman Henry Cavill, Freida Pinto, Stephen Dorff and Mickey Rourke. Looks like bloody good fun.





► Months of work will be on display as Comic-Con attendees sport their costumes.

"It's getting harder and harder to stand out amid the din," director Andrew Stanton (next year's John Carter of Mars) told the L.A. Times' Hero Complex blog recently.

But Morgan Spurlock, who is completing a documentary about the convention, isn't buying it.

"They say that every year," Spurlock tells Metro. "It's one of those things like, 'No, we're not going to go this year, we're not going to go.' And then sud-

denly one studio jumps in and says yes, and the next thing you know two more climb on board. It's one of those where I don't buy in to it."

But the big surprises at this year's convention are as much who is coming as who isn't. Mingling with the science-fiction and horror mainstays, prestige directors Steven Spielberg (the Adventures of Tin Tin), Stephen Soderbergh (Haywire) and Francis Ford Coppola (Twixt) will be

heading to the massive Hall H to pitch their work to the Comic-Con masses.

A first

Debating at Comic-Con

► **Movie** This year marks the first time a film has held its world premiere at Comic-Con, with Cowboys & Aliens debuting there.

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► Kellan Lutz stars as Poseidon in The Immortals.

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1:

OK, we're not really looking forward to this movie as much as the whining and moaning Comic-Con's legion of fanboys let loose once the series' even scarier legion of diehard fangirls shows up to crash their party. Twilight fans are expected to be lining up outside Hall H as early as Monday for the star-studded panel.

TELEVISION

Game of Thrones

The cast of HBO's new hit

will be heading straight from San Diego to begin filming the show's second season, so this is likely the last chance to get a Game of Thrones fix before the long winter ahead.

The Walking Dead

Last year, the popularity of AMC's zombie apocalypse series caught Comic-Con off-guard, with its initial panel packed to over-capacity, so hopefully this year they're prepared for an army of hungry fans looking for dirt on season two.

Doctor Who

Matt Smith, the latest — and 11th — actor to take on the iconic sci-fi character, will be making his first-ever trip to Comic-Con — most likely to receive a stern talking-to for making everyone wait so long.

Glee

Once again, the Fox television hit with no discernible connection to the comic-book world — except that its characters are all outcasts — makes an appear-

Rest stops

► We'll be checking in as much as possible at the Wired Cafe (the Omni Hotel), Wired magazine's Comic-Con oasis where VIPs can recharge their devices and their bodies, play video games and sip cocktails served by True Blood-themed waitresses

ance. But this year they've got a 3-D concert movie (out next month) to promote, too. **NED EHRBAR**

Nerds rule the throne

- The world of Dungeons And Dragons has somehow become cool without anyone realizing it
- How fantasy rose to the top of the cultural heap



BRAYDEN SIMMS
METRO WORLD NEWS
SCENE@METRONOVS.CA

In the course of a single generation, one of the most denigrated cultural institutions has risen to the top of the popularity hierarchy, influencing a new era of TV, cinema and literature.

We speak, of course, of fantasy. For the longest time, merely speaking the word aloud was enough to earn you a wedgie. But the literary genre, long the vestige of dice-rolling basement dwellers, has, in the past decade and a half, fully emerged from its (dragon) shell, capturing a more mainstream audience — and, in turn, a more mainstream cash flow.

If, in early 1997, you had predicted the growth of the maligned genre on the back of a bespectacled British wizard, you probably would have been stuffed into a locker faster than you could not say Voldemort.

Yet this improbable hero stands as the face of a brand worth a net \$4 billion worldwide, establishing his creator, JK Rowling, as the first — and only — billionaire writer, and firmly legitimizing practices and standards ranging from cosplay (organized dress-up) to a general acceptance of fantasy fiction.

According to Brad Ricca, a university professor and author of the forthcoming book *Super Boys*, this “sub-

tle but important shift in popular culture” can be explained as a reaction to an increasingly chaotic present.

“College-age people who

grew up reading Harry Potter flock to the movies with wands and robes in an attempt to recapture the past,” Ricca says.

How fortunate for



► HBO's *A Game of Thrones* has become wildly popular over the last few months.

George RR Martin.

The Hollywood screenwriter turned fantasist wrote a series of novels that, set in a medieval era on some imaginary, magic-infused continent, for years languished only in the deepest recesses of nerd-dom. (Where, full disclosure, this author has long dwelt.)

All that has changed, however, with HBO's TV adaptation of his seminal work; *A Game of Thrones*, has inspired a new appreciation for his escapist oeuvre at a time when it seems — impending debt crisis, promise of European collapse, depressing summer TV lineup — the whole world is coming to pieces.

“In watching these shows,” Ricca says, “we may just be acknowledging the importance and romance of the imaginative past as it affects us in times of uncertain future.”

Considering our present uncertainty, we predict a continuation of the growing trend in mainstream fantasy literature.

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Boosted by the success of HBO's *A Game of Thrones*, the fifth book in George RR Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series — *A Dance with Dragons*, released on July 12 — quickly rose to the top of the charts, becoming 2011's fastest selling work of fiction. It sold 298,000 copies in its first day on shelves.

When the dying stops: A fate worse than death

Lauren Ambrose is explaining what happens on *Torchwood: Miracle Day*, her new Starz sci-fi series. Let's listen:

“An unnatural global phenomenon takes place where nobody is dying anymore. Our show explores the repercussions throughout the world. And I play the person who's there to sell it!” She beams.

“This is a vicious and

ambitious person — a new kind of role for me!”

Indeed. As glossy, calculating PR pro Jilly Kitzinger, the 33-year-old Ambrose is making a colourful addition to the list of characters she has played since her acting career began two decades ago.

With Jilly, she leaves behind forever the role for which she is most widely known, that of

Claire Fisher, the hearse-driving, tormented teen on the HBO funeral-home drama, *Six Feet Under*.

And, no, the irony is not lost on her: how she starred, before, in a series about dying, and now she's in a series where people can't die.

Torchwood: Miracle Day, which airs its third episode on Friday at 10 p.m. ET, is a spinoff of the much-adored *Torchwood*,

a British series that told of the *Torchwood* Institute, a mysterious organization dedicated to fighting the world's strangest, most sinister menaces.

But *Torchwood* was shut down.

Then, at the beginning of this new series, a moment arrived on planet Earth when the dying stopped.

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No End of the Road for these Boyz

► Boyz II Men launching 20th anniversary album, *Twenty* ► 'We hope that those people that we've touched before, we'll be able to touch again' says Shawn Stockman of the album featuring new songs and classic hits

Boyz II Men brought their Motown-Philly harmonies to the masses when they made their debut with

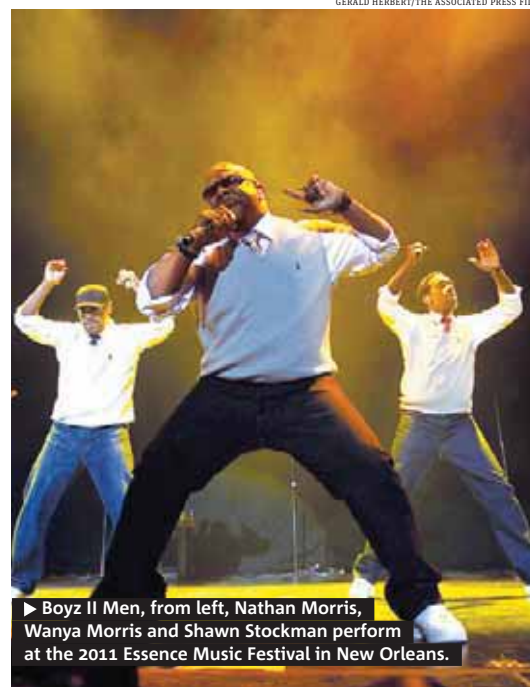
Cooleyhighharmony in 1991; propelled by hits like *End of the Road* and *It's So Hard to Say Good-*

bye to Yesterday, the Philadelphia-based group's first album sold more than nine million

copies. Their sophomore CD, *II*, sold 12 million copies.

Band member Shawn

GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



► Boyz II Men, from left, Nathan Morris, Wanya Morris and Shawn Stockman perform at the 2011 Essence Music Festival in New Orleans.

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Don't Go Away

They have never replicated the sales, or the radio success, of those first two multimillion-selling albums. Still, Stockman says they haven't stopped being successful.

► "It wasn't the kind of thing where we made flop

albums, and someone got on drugs, and then all kind of craziness happened. The industry just changed, and tastes changed," he said. "We didn't fall off. ... Time and how things have gone in the industry and in life, it kind of preserved us to be able to have some sort of success."

Stockman says the group — which originally included Wanya Morris, Nathan Morris and Michael McCary — had no idea how huge their achievements were.

"We were so busy just working ... we didn't think too much about how it would impact the world, which is probably a good thing, because it kept us sharp and kept us focused, even to this present day," he said. "Looking back, it's a great thing. It's hard to talk about it because it's something that we think it's a great milestone in our careers, but we're still hungry, and we still feel like we have so much more to contribute, musically and otherwise."

The group — which became a trio after McCary

left — still records and performs regularly. Their last CD, 2009's *Love*, had them performing standard love songs.

The trio's upcoming album, *Twenty*, will feature new songs and new renditions of some of their best-known work.

"We've always been true to our love songs, and the type of music that we do, we feel this type of music is timeless," he said. "It's our 20th anniversary, so we wanted to not only give our listeners something new, but our new listeners I guess an anthology."

Stockman hopes the group will capture a younger generation, but also a few fans they may have lost along the way.

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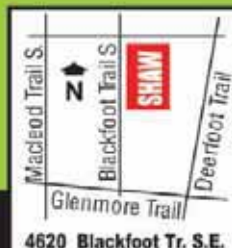
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Was Anthony cheating on J.Lo?

► Sources tell magazine that split between couple was not 'amicable'

While Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony have announced that their split was "amicable," sources tell People magazine it was anything but.

The decision to separate reportedly came "after months of nonstop arguing," a source says, adding that Anthony feeling jealous about Lopez's American Idol success and Lopez fearing Anthony wasn't being faithful were factors.

"Though they love, admire and respect each other very much, they just needed to be apart," the source says.

● METRO



► Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony

JASON KEMPIN/GETTY IMAGES

Talking points

Simpson's rep claims she's not preggers

MAYBE SHE'S JUST CURVY. After stepping out for a business meeting in Beverly Hills in a body-hugging minidress, Jessica Simpson is shooting down rumours that she and fiancé Eric Johnson are expecting, according to Celebuzz.

"This photo agency is full of malarkey," Simpson's publicist says of the company that first made the speculation. "She is not pregnant."

● METRO



► Jessica Simpson

Aniston on having kids one day: 'It'll happen'

Jennifer Aniston hasn't ruled out parenthood — in fact, she's looking forward to it.

"I'd love to have children one day," she tells Look magazine. "And it'll happen. I am open to being a single mother, to adopting. I'm just

fine with it."

But there are some ideas Aniston is clearly not open to, like social-networking. "You'll never see me on Twitter or anything like that, it's not for me," she says.

"I'm all about old traditional ways — phone calls and letters. Although I do internet surf and shop online. I love auctions."

● METRO



Jennifer Aniston



► Matt Damon

STEPHEN LOVEKIN/GETTY IMAGES

Matt Damon loves his life

Matt Damon admits that, for a celebrity, he has it pretty easy.

"I'm really lucky, because I have the best of both worlds. I do the work that I love and need, but don't need paramilitary troops to protect me when I walk out my front door," he says in an interview with Germany's Tele 5.

"I have friends who are like prisoners. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, for instance. They can't just go someplace. If they go for a walk, it turns into an international incident."

● METRO

Celebrity tweets



Biggest changes in the last 10 years: My love affair with my BlackBerry and Tivo. You?



@TomArnold

@hwinkler4real

So if everyone in England is resigning because of phone hacking HOW FAR BEHIND ARE WE here in the US It has to be in the NEWS CORP culture



@Pink

just tried 2do yoga class w/ a 6 wk old. even dressed her in buddha onesie thinking it'd keep her calm. wrong. so wrong. no dwnrwd dog 4 me



@CarrieFFisher

Though life is far from a bed of roses Thru which one lethargically loiters It nevertheless is more savory Than a bed comprised of goiters

Franco splits with longtime girlfriend

FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES



► James Franco

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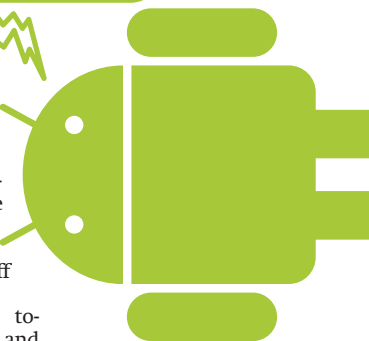
then came to New York to go to school for two years. Then I signed up for more school at Yale. I think that was it for her."

● METRO

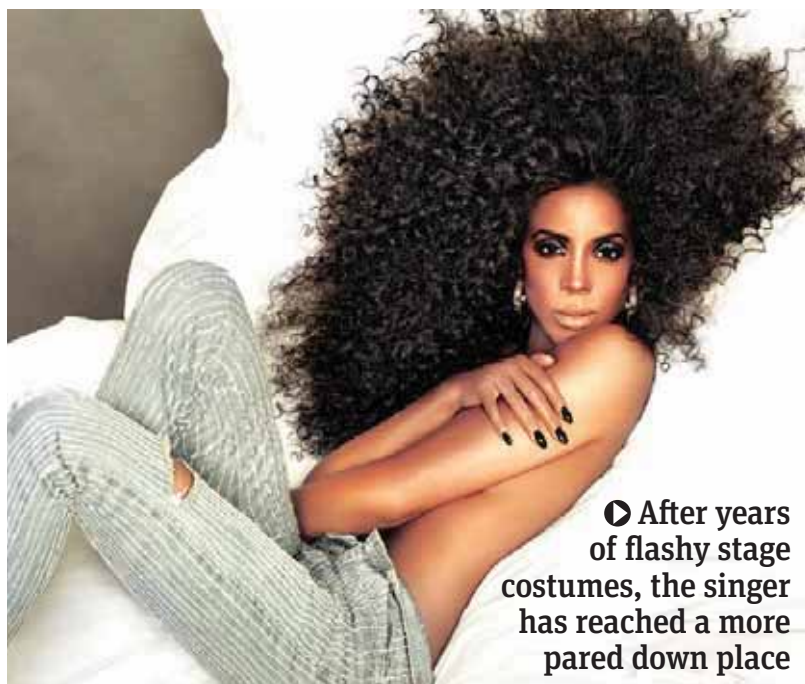
James Franco and his longtime girlfriend, Ahna O'Reilly, have split up, the eclectic actor tells Playboy magazine.

"It's over. That lasted about four or five years," he says of the relationship, which he managed to keep off the radar.

"We'd been living together in Los Angeles and



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► After years of flashy stage costumes, the singer has reached a more pared down place

Kelly Rowland stripped down

KENYA HUNT
LIFE@METRONews.ca
METRO WORLD NEWS

Before she went solo, Kelly Rowland spent her career dressed in blingy, costumes designed to keep you entertained — shimmer, mermaid-like dresses with flesh revealing cut-outs or ripped, GI Jane-style army fatigues with camouflage Daisy Dukes or sexy versions of Cub Scout

uniforms with tight, midriff baring tops.

"I've never been afraid to take any risks," she admits over the phone from London, where she's promoting her new album, *Here I Am*, and preparing to join the UK X-Factor judging panel.

"My personal style has grown in a way where I know what works for me. You have to try different things out to get it right,"

she says of her evolution from her days as one-third of Destiny's Child.

"Before, I was about what's 'in' right now. But now, I buy to collect pieces that will be with me forever."

If the Texan's old wardrobe was all about constantly changing kinds of splash, its new incarnation is much more refined and focused, thanks to her habit of reading *Style.com*

KELLY'S STYLE ICONS

Halle Barry

"I love the fact that she always looks so effortless, like she just woke up in that dress looking beautiful.

She's always dressed so appropriately for her age — with some women it seems like they're reaching too much. But with Halle, she can wear a dress with her stomach out and it looks amazing because she has the body for it."



Jennifer Lopez

"She's just a siren who is smoking hot, period. I love her."



3

life

Trend of the week

E-COMMERCE

Just in time for fall shopping, luxury brands are rolling out e-commerce sites faster than you can say, "credit, please." Our vote for the most user-friendly shopping experience goes to Dolce & Gabbana for their slick magazine-style trend reports and shop the look features. Meanwhile, Balenciaga gets the most arty prize; the site will feature short movies created by visual artists.



Sporting Life is a give-and-take between high fashion and real function

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Orange you looking nice today

► From the Paris couture runways to the business boardrooms, the 'orange' oldies seem to be ruling the world
► They may have it all (if fame and power are your bag) but eternal youth — well, that just ain't one of them!



► Valentino Garavani



► Giorgio Armani



► Iggy Pop



► Tom Jones



► Silvio Berlusconi



► Pippa, beach ready

Middle-TAN

It's a wonder how the Middletons maintain their bronzy looks. It's definitely not from basking in the British sun. Nevertheless, since England's favorite family joined the Royal crowd, Pippa has taken the fake bake to another, higher sphere. Maybe it's a social status thing after all — nope, not.

● RICHARD PECKETT



What's orange with a crazy bouffant and sings a catchy tune?

You'd probably say an "Oompa Loompa," but you'd be wrong. The correct answer is Tom Jones and a whole host of saffron-skinned friends.

But why are all the old timers topping up their tan from a can?

Perhaps orange skin is a status sym-

bol in some circles. Or maybe, while everything else is fading — looks, hair and yes, sexual prowess — their face becomes that last bastion of virility.

We'll never know. But here are the fake tan's biggest fans.

The couturier glow

Valentino Garavani shows off his best impression of an Eighties don.

While Giorgio Armani with his leather-like complexion and nipple clinging tee looks like the kind of guy who'd spot you on a

gym workout, no?

Rockhard and bronzed

These days the music world's most iconic gyrating, rock stars are more like singing raisins. Take a look at the radioactive glow emanating from Iggy Pop and Tom Jones.

Yep, the one-time sex bombs may not be able to muster a body-

pop but boy do their faces add a colour pop worthy of the spring/summer '11 runways.

Businessmen bringing citrus back

These two have got plenty to be red in the face about. Perhaps that's why old 'bunga bunga' Berlusconi and 'The Donald' favour a tangerine disguise. Only the brightest orange will do for the world's classiest acts.



Dress your buff beach body

► Think softer shapes and sleeveless ► Tips to show off the fantastic figure you've worked so hard to build

Fitting a fit frame isn't always easy.

While clothing designers and retailers have given more attention lately to finding solutions for their petite and plus-size customers, those women with an athletic build — who could be tall or short, more narrow or wide — have their own set of dressing challenges that certainly don't have a one-size-fits-all solution.

Working with many real women instead of only models on photo shoots,

Adam Glassman, O The Oprah Magazine's creative director, says he's noticed an increase in "the athletic type." He can't quite define it, but he says he knows it when he sees it.

"It isn't just about athletes," Glassman says. "It has nothing to do with height. You tend to have broad shoulders and a broad back, and your arms are naturally toned or you work out — the tummy is the same thing. Perhaps you have not a lot of curves with a straight waistline



► ADAM

and square hips, thighs muscular and built calves, and a smaller bust."

He adds: "You can have



► ADAM

all of that, two of the above, part of one. It ranges from gymnasts to swimmers."

"I think the fashion in-

"I think the fashion industry is stepping up to the plate in offering things for more sizes."

ADAM GLASSMAN, O THE OPRAH MAGAZINE'S CREATIVE DIRECTOR

dusty is stepping up to the plate in offering things for more sizes, but you still have to be willing to search," he says.

Most important, women — no matter size and shape — should be looking for clothes that are comfort-

able and flattering with an end goal of creating a lovely, feminine hourglass shape.

Athletic types often have the advantage of being taut and firm, he says, but that also can leave the impression of them being tough and tomboyish. He likes to see women soften their look with ruffles, ruching, flowing skirts such as a tulip shape, a top with a defined waist or a tie at the waist, and puffy sleeves — which are trendy right now.

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Swimming in the spotlight

► Pants as beach coverups, playful prints and bright hues wow at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim 2012

Next summer, women can be comfortable, feel glamorous and look trend-right in pants as beach coverups.

Bold-coloured and printed pantsuits were one of the popular styles on the runway during the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim 2012. Slouchy pants in bright pink and black, and even a Spandex, bohemian-print legging, also might be coming soon to a beach near you.

Playful prints and vibrant hues had their place on the catwalks in Miami Beach, as well as animal-inspired prints, colours and stripes.

Some designers showed high-waisted bikini bottoms, while others included multi side-string swimwear, allowing for some skin to peek through. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



WHITE SANDS AUSTRALIA

Two contrasting styles were on the runway at White Sands Australia: sweet floral vs. sexy zebra. Designer Leah Madden tried to pick between the two to show a cohesive collection, but ended up showing both.



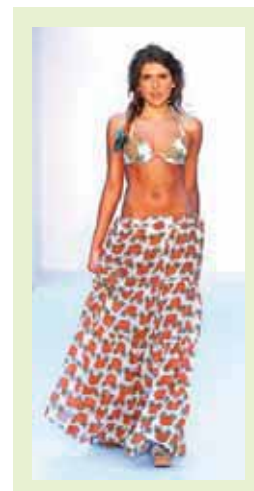
RED CARTER

Lucite capes in bright jewel tones showed the adventurous side of designer Red Carter. His collection focused on two trends: One was African inspired with hand crochet; the other paid homage to Pop Art with eye-popping colours.



DOLORES CORTES

Spanish designer Dolores Font Cortes' collection was inspired by dreams of a remote, idyllic island. Colours ranged from strawberry pink to the green tint from the bottom of the sea, and orange shades.



POKO PANO

Brazilian designer Paola Robba incorporated her country's traditional colours, symbols, plant and wildlife into a 40-piece collection which included bikinis, kaftans, mini dresses, shirts, skirts and pantaloons in a multitude of colours.



MARA HOFFMAN

A generous mix of Egyptian and South American tribal influences were seen at the Mara Hoffman show in a multitude of vibrant colours. Her collection touched on Egyptian inspiration such as the sarcophagus and King Tut.

Grab hold of this hardware

► Revamp your home by adding unique hooks and one-of-a-kind door knobs to your furnishings

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Changing the hardware around your place

is a great way to add personality to a room, and is a quick and inexpensive way to be creative with furnishings.

A classic and simple white kitchen can date itself with 1970s brass handles, while a curlicue victorian dresser can look a bit fussy with cut crystal knobs.

Why not add some "new jewelry to that old suit"? Changing the hard-

ware offers an instant update to your furnishings.

In the kitchen

Renters rejoice; updating the look of your kitchen is easy by investing in some new hardware for the cupboard doors and drawers.

Brushed stainless steel or shiny nickel knobs and pulls are the most popular.

It's also one of those upgrades you can take with you when you move (just keep the old hardware to replace when you are gone).

As most kitchens require quite a few, purchase your knobs and pulls at the big-box or DIY stores; the prices are usually better than specialty shops and they will have the quantity you need in stock.

Want to add a custom look? Put knobs on doors and pulls on drawers. Match the style and finish.



► Add some sparkle (Anthropologie)



► Opt for a classic look (Anthropologie)



► Get creative with your home's hardware.

Hook it up

Interestingly shaped antique hooks can be found at flea markets and cost just a few dollars each.

► Old hooks often have unique shapes and personalities of their own and can take on quite a modern look when spray-painted with a high gloss colour.

Old furniture gets dazzled

Got an old dresser or cabinet that feels a bit dull? Restaining it very dark or painting it a bright colour can change the look, but adding some fun knobs will add some interest and update your relic for a few more years.

Handmade or painted knobs allow you to be creative and customize a boring piece of furniture.

Look in lifestyle stores that sell home and clothing for some unique hardware.

Woman's clothing store Anthropologie and home decor store Pier One are favourites of mine.

Bathroom pizzazz

Replacing standard towel bars and cabinet knobs in the bathroom can add a real punch of personality to a small space.

I like to buy four-five

matching towels bars and install them above one another, about 12-18 inches apart.

The vertically stacked bars give a vertical element to a small bath and offer up valuable hanging space as if a ladder were leaning against the wall.

Check out the big box stores for multiple towel bars on sale.

In family bathrooms try installing several hooks at various heights to hold multiple family towels.

Choose a different brightly coloured towel for each family member and the wall will take on a fun, playful look.

MORE FAUX-PAS FOR DISH CLEANING CHARLES THE BUTLER



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ing a dishwasher is that for the cleaning cycle of the dishwasher to be successful you need the dishwasher to be able to circulate around the entire item.

Overcrowding is one of the most common problems when it comes to dirty dishes and unsatisfactory results.

Some people try and save money on soap; this is not an area where you should cut back.

Always use the manufacturer's recommended amount.

What you need to determine is what is the best soap for your dish-



► Clean cutlery is in order.

washer and for the type of water in your area.

Liquid and powder react differently based on the type of water.

The cutlery tray

Always put cutlery in the tray pointing up. This allows for maximum water

circulation. Also it is important to mix up the cutlery.

NOTE: Sharp knives should always be pointed downwards for safety.

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Lovers to roomies: Not always a fairy tale ending

► To save you from arguing over that wagon wheel coffee table or those inherited curtains, we spoke to relationship experts Dorian Solot and Marshall Miller



Shacking up and creating your own little love nest can be the stuff of poetry and cheesy love songs alike. But unfortunately, neither mentions that two of every piece of furniture, coupled with conflicting opinions, do not meld quite so harmoniously.

Dorian Solot, co-author of the relationship book, *Unmarried to Each Other*, explains: "Some couples find the best way to guarantee smooth sailing is for the partner who's less invested to just forfeit and grant the other the right to make decorating decisions."

But then you might end up with a scenario in which one half of the couple doesn't feel at home in his or her new place.

So, how can two lovebirds keep an apartment share fair? "You should allow each partner to have their own 'sanctuary' space within the apartment," says Solot's partner, Marshall Miller.

"Also, when it comes to purchasing shared items like a sofa, each partner should split them into 'love it', 'maybe' and 'no way' categories and agree to pick the one that you jointly rank as your favourite," he adds.

A decorating democracy sounds like bliss but the chaps among you surrounded by soft pastels and delicate feminine touches will know that sometimes a woman's vote can count for two. To avoid this, Miller suggests "the man pick out at least one piece of art for a public part of the house. Little things work too, like



► Thinking about shacking up? Read this before taking the plunge.

asking for his opinion on wall colours. You can also diversify your coffee table or magazine rack to include the types of books and publications guys enjoy."

But inevitably, some rela-

tionships are doomed to fail. To protect yourself, and your things, Miller suggests drafting a "living together agreement" rather than "labelling everything you own as if you're a kid going to

camp." He says this is the opportunity to reach an agreement about finances and which valuable possessions each person brings into the relationship.

"Many couples agree



"Have the man pick out at least one piece of art."

MILLER, PICTURED LEFT WITH SOLOT

that anything purchased after they live together will be presumed to belong to both jointly and if they break up, they can agree to sell those items," Miller adds. At least this way, you'll avoid all the petty arguments over who bought the Friends box set.

Can I still buy a new townhome in McKenzie Towne?

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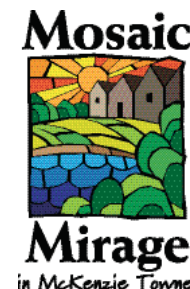
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MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► Make your own ketchup. It can be stored for three weeks.

Weekly Cookbook



Summer entertaining just got easier with *Food for Family & Friends* (Ryland Peters & Small, 2011). The book offers inspiration to help you create the right ambiance, more than 130 recipes, plus expert advice on choosing wine. Filled with colourful images, the book is divided into sections such as Setting the Scene, Nibbles and Sharing Plates, Feeding a Crowd, Drinks, and more. Among the recipes are: Pumpkin Soup with Honey and Sage, Spicy Pork Curry with Lemon Rice, Chocolate Truffles and more.

There's a seasonal shift going on in the condiment firmament.

Ketchup, a staple of many pantries, is catching up with the cool crowd as chefs seek new inspiration.

"It's a very exciting time to be making ketchup," says Scott Norton, who with Mark Ramadan founded the recently launched Sir Kensington's Gourmet Scooping Ketchup.

Organic ketchup, spicy ketchup, gourmet ketchup, curry ketchup, all have blossomed in recent years, a development that James Oseland, editor-in-chief of *Savour* magazine, has noted with approval. "Who doesn't love a good ketchup?" he points out.

Spicy Peach Ketchup

Preparation:

1 In sauté pan over medium, heat oil. Add onions and garlic; cook, stirring occasionally, until onions turn golden and caramelized, about 15 minutes. If they start to darken too much, add

15 ml (1 tbsp) of water.

2 Add peaches, red pepper flakes, allspice, cloves, adobo sauce, brown sugar, vinegar and salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 45 minutes.

3 Working in batches, transfer mix to blender and purée. Adjust seasoning with additional sugar, salt or vinegar. Transfer mix to a clean jar and refrigerate up to three weeks. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ALISON LADMAN**

Ingredients:

Spicy Peach Ketchup

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) canola oil
- 2 yellow onions, sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 6 peaches, peeled; pitted
- 5 ml (1 tsp) pepper flakes
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) allspice
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground cloves
- 10 ml (2 tsp) adobo sauce
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) packed brown sugar (approx)
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) cider vinegar (approx)
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt (approx)

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4
sports

Quoted



"I like competing in Canada, especially in Toronto. I think I won there before (in 2001), but it feels like a lifetime ago. So it's time to get back there and do it again."

SERENA WILLIAMS ON THE ROGERS CUP, WHICH BEGINS AUG. 8 IN TORONTO.

Who to watch for

► The PGA hits Vancouver this week with a field that's considered the Canadian Open's best in years ► Here's a look at some of the key players



LUKE DONALD

The 33-year-old is fresh off crashing out of the British Open, failing to make the halfway cut. But he's still on top of the world, ranked No. 1 on the tour.



MIKE WEIR

That Canada's greatest golfer has never won the Canadian Open is one of sport's great cruelties. If you're not rooting for Weir, you're a seriously cold human being.

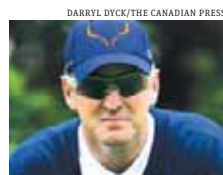


RICKIE FOWLER

With his bright Puma hats, shaggy hair and pretty-boy look, the 22-year-old is like the Justin Bieber of professional golf.



► Golfer Anthony Kim tees off during a championship pro-am event at the Canadian Open at the Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club in Vancouver yesterday.



DAVID DUVAL

His flame flickered out long ago, but Duval, 39, keeps trying to find a spark. He was No. 1 in the world for 15 great weeks in 1999, and went on to win the 2001 British Open — but hasn't won since.



JOHN DALY

Daly is easily the most entertaining force on the PGA Tour. From his cigars to clown pants, even if he doesn't win, Daly is a champion.



JIM FURYK

The 41-year-old was the 2010 PGA Tour player of the year. And he has won the Canadian Open twice, in 2006 and '07. Expect him to vie for a third title this year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

No vote yet for NFL players: Source

NFL players didn't vote yesterday on a full proposal to settle the league's labour dispute, citing several outstanding issues, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person said there was agreement among representatives of all 32 clubs on what items needed to be resolved before any offer would be accepted. A second person, also speaking on condition of anonymity because the talks are supposed to be secret, said those players gave what was termed "conditional approval" of the proposal — as it stood yesterday.

The meeting at NFL Players Association headquarters in Washington lasted nearly 10 hours and included the group's executive committee and team reps.

In Atlanta, the owners' lead negotiator Jeff Pash said the sides would talk through the night in hopes of having a final agreement ready to go today.

"I think both sides are at the point where they can close, they should close, and we should be in a position to take votes," Pash said.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell joined nine of the 10 members of the labour committee in Atlanta, which hoped to recommend a finalized proposal to all owners today. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	59	37	.615	—
New York	57	38	.600	1½
Tampa Bay	51	45	.531	8
Toronto	49	49	.500	11
Baltimore	39	56	.411	19½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	51	46	.526	—
Detroit	51	46	.526	—
Chicago	47	51	.480	4½
Minnesota	46	51	.474	5
Kansas City	40	58	.408	11½
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	56	41	.577	—
Los Angeles	51	46	.526	5
Seattle	43	54	.443	13
Oakland	43	55	.439	13½

Yesterday's results
Toronto 11 Seattle 6
Minnesota 7 Cleveland 5
Oakland 7 Detroit 5
Kansas City 2 Chicago White Sox 1 (11 inn.)
Boston 4 Baltimore 0
N.Y. Yankees 4 Tampa Bay 0
Texas at L.A. Angels
Tuesday's results
Toronto 6 Seattle 5 (14 inn.)
Baltimore 6 Boston 2
Tampa Bay 3 N.Y. Yankees 2
Minnesota 2 Cleveland 1
Texas 7 L.A. Angels 0
Kansas City 4 Chicago White Sox 2
Detroit 8 Oakland 3
Today's games
All times Eastern
Seattle (Fister 3-11) at **Toronto (R.Romero 7-9)**, 12:37 p.m.
Texas (C.Wilson 10-3) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 12-4), 3:35 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 14-4) at Tampa Bay (Shields 8-8), 7:10 p.m.
Detroit (Verlander 12-5) at Minnesota (Pavano 6-6), 8:10 p.m.

BLUE JAYS STATISTICS

BATTERS	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
Bautista	307	74	102	31	66	.332
Molina	104	13	32	2	9	.308
Thames	124	23	38	4	15	.306
Escobar	339	52	103	9	36	.304
Lind	283	40	84	17	54	.297
Encarnacion	264	32	70	6	23	.265
Patterson	307	43	78	6	33	.254
Snider	139	17	34	2	24	.245
Davis	281	39	66	1	25	.235
Hill	309	30	72	4	37	.233
McCoy	73	9	16	1	4	.219
McDonald	137	16	30	2	15	.219
Arenchibia	265	28	56	12	39	.211
PITCHERS	W	L	SV	IP	SO	ERA
McCoy	0	0	0	1.0	0	0.00
Rzepczynski	2	2	0	39.1	33	2.75
Janssen	3	0	1	28.2	27	2.83
Fraser	2	1	0	40.1	35	3.12
Romero	7	9	0	127.1	108	3.18
Villanueva	5	2	0	84.1	60	3.31
Dotel	2	1	1	27.0	29	3.33
Camp	1	1	1	41.2	19	4.10
Rauch	3	3	7	39.1	27	4.12
Morrow	6	4	0	94.2	110	4.37
Reyes	5	7	0	105.2	61	4.94
Francisco	1	4	10	26.2	30	5.40
Cecil	2	4	0	48.1	35	5.77

Last night's game not included

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	61	36	.629	—
Atlanta	57	41	.582	4½
New York	49	48	.505	12
Washington	48	50	.490	13½
Florida	47	51	.480	14½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	51	45	.531	—
Milwaukee	52	46	.531	—
St. Louis	50	47	.515	1½
Cincinnati	48	50	.490	4
Chicago	39	60	.394	13½
Houston	33	65	.337	19
WEST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	57	42	.576	—
Arizona	52	45	.536	4
Colorado	47	51	.480	9½
San Diego	43	55	.439	13½
Los Angeles	43	55	.439	13½

Yesterday's results
Cincinnati 3 Pittsburgh 1
Houston 3 Washington 2 (11 inn.)
Colorado 3 Atlanta 2
Philadelphia 9 Chicago Cubs 1
San Diego 14 Florida 3
N.Y. Mets 6 St. Louis 5 (10 inn.)
L.A. Dodgers 1 San Francisco 0
Milwaukee at Arizona
Tuesday's results
San Francisco 5 L.A. Dodgers 3
Houston 7 Washington 6
Colorado 12 Atlanta 3
Philadelphia 4 Chicago Cubs 2
San Diego 4 Florida 0
Pittsburgh 1 Cincinnati 0
N.Y. Mets 4 St. Louis 2
Milwaukee 11 Arizona 3
Today's games
All times Eastern
San Diego (Moseley 2-9) at Florida (Vazquez 6-8), 12:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Westbrook 7-4) at N.Y. Mets (Niese 9-7), 12:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Hanson 10-5) at Colorado (Chacin 8-7), 3:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Greinke 7-3) at Arizona (L.Kennedy 10-3), 9:40 p.m.

NL LEADERS

	G	AB	R	H	AVG.
JosReyes NYM	81	355	66	126	.355
Helton Col	86	290	42	94	.324
Votto Cin	96	359	59	115	.320
Bruce Mil	88	320	59	101	.316
Pence Hou	91	372	45	117	.315
Morse Wash	86	290	42	91	.314
McCann Atl	84	310	39	97	.313
Kemp LAD	97	349	58	109	.312
DaniMurphy NYM	92	326	39	101	.310
SCastro Chi	95	406	53	124	.305
Runs — RWeeks, Mil., 70; JosReyes, NY, 66; CYoung, Arz., 62; Gonzalez, Col., 61.					
RBI — Fielder, Mil., 73; Howard, Phil., 73; Kemp, LAD, 72; Berkman, STL, 65.					
Hits — JosReyes, NY, 126; SCastro, Chi, 124; Pence, Hou., 117; Votto, Cin., 115; Bourne, Hou., 113.					
Doubles — Beltran, NY, 30; Callee, Hou., 27; CYoung, Arz., 26; SCastro, Chi., 25; Headley, SD, 25.					
Triples — JosReyes, NY, 15; Victorino, Phil., 9; SCastro, Chi., 8; Bourne, Hou., 7.					
Home Runs — Berkman, STL, 26; Kemp, LAD, 24; Fielder, Mil., 22; Bruce, Cin., 21.					
Stolen Bases — Bourne, Hou., 35; JosReyes, NY, 30; Kemp, LAD, 27; Stubbs, Cin., 23.					
Saves — Kimbrel, Atl., 29; BrWilson, SF, 29; Hanrahan, Pit., 28; L.Nunez, Fla., 27; HBell, SD, 27.					
Yesterday's games not included					

BLUE JAYS 11, MARINERS 6

	ab	r	h	bi	Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
ISuzuki rf	4	0	1	0	YEscor ss	3	0	0	1
Halmn rf	1	0	0	0	JMcDnl ss	1	0	1	1
Ryan ss	4	2	3	0	ETHms rf	5	0	1	2
Ackley 2b	4	1	2	3	Bautista dh	3	1	1	0
Smack dh	5	0	0	0	Lind 1b	4	2	2	1
AKndy 1b	5	2	2	1	McCoy 2b	0	0	0	0
Carp lf	4	0	1	0	ENrcsc 3b-1b	5	4	3	1
FGtrzc cf	4	0	0	0	Snider lf	4	1	2	5
Seager 3b	4	1	1	0	A.Hill 2b	3	1	0	0
J.Bard c	3	0	1	2	RDavis cf	4	1	2	0
JMolin c	4	1	2	0					
Totals	38	6	11	6	Totals	36	11	14	11
Seattle	000	200	112	—6					
Toronto	041	302	10x	—11					
LOB—Seattle 8, Toronto 10. 2B—Ryan (14), Ackley (5), J.Bard (4), E.Thames (11), Bautista (16), Encarnacion (22), R.Davis (17). HR—Ackley (4), A.Kennedy (7), Lind (18), Encarnacion (7), Snider (3), SB—Ryan (8), Encarnacion 2 (4). CS—Snider (3), SF—Snider.									
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO			
Seattle									
Vargas L-6-8	3	6	5	5	5	0			
J.Wright	1	2	3	3	2	0			
Laffey	3	6	3	3	0	2			
Ray	1	0	0	0	0	1			
Toronto									
Morrow W-7-4	7	7	3	3	3	7			
F.Francisco	1	2	1	1	0	2			
Dotel	1	2	2	2	0	0			
HBP—by J.Wright (A.Hill).									

AL LEADERS

	G	AB	R	H	AVG.
AdGonzalez Bos	94	386	66	130	.337
Bautista Tor	86	307	74	102	.332
MIYoung Tex	95	377	42	121	.321
VMartinez Det	81	297	40	94	.316
Ellsbury Bos	94	385	68	121	.314
Konerko ChiW	94	344	43	108	.314
JhPeralta Det	86	310	41	97	.313
McCabrera Det	96	329	65	102	.310
YEscobar Tor	88	339	52	103	.304
Boesch Det	88	332	59	100	.301
Runs — Granderson, NY, 84; Bautista, Toronto, 75 ; Ellsbury, Boston, 68; Kinsler, Texas, 67; Ad-Gonzalez, Boston, 66; McCabrera, Detroit, 65; Pedroia, Boston, 63; Zobrist, Tampa Bay, 63.					
RBI — AdGonzalez, Bos., 78; Beltre, Texas, 74; Konerko, Chi., 69; Granderson, NY, 68; Youkilis, Bos., 68; Teixeira, NY, 67; Bautista, Toronto, 66 .					
Hits — AdGonzalez, Bos., 130; Ellsbury, Bos., 121; MIYoung, Texas, 121; McCabrera, KC, 120; Markakis, Baltimore, 114.					
Doubles — AdGonzalez, Bos., 29; Zobrist, TB, 28; MIYoung, Tex., 27.					
Triples — Granderson, NY, 8; AJackson, Det., 7; RDavis, Toronto, 6 ; Bourjos, LA, 6.					
Home Runs — Bautista, Toronto, 31 ; Granderson, NY, 25; Teixeira, NY, 25; Konerko, Chi., 22.					
Stolen Bases — Gardner, NY, 29; RDavis, Toronto, 28 ; Andrus, Tex., 28; Ellsbury, Boston, 28; Crisp, Oakland, 27; ISuzuki, Seattle, 23; Bupton, Tampa Bay, 22.					
Pitching — Sabathia, NY, 14-4; Weaver, LA, 12-4; Verlander, Det., 12-5.					
Strikeouts — Verlander, Det., 153; FHernandez, Sea., 146; Shields, TB, 145; Sabathia, New York, 134; Price, Tampa Bay, 132; CWilson, Texas, 124; Weaver, Los Angeles, 123.					
Saves — Valverde, Det., 25; MaRivera, NY, 24; League, Sea., 23; CPerez, Cle., 22; Papelbon, Bos., 21; Walden, LA, 21; Feliz, Texas, 20.					
Yesterday's games not included					

TENNIS

ATP

BET-AT-HOME OPEN

At Hamburg, Germany
Singles — Second Round
Gael Monfils (1), France, def. Albert Ramo, Spain, 6-4, 6-2.
Jurgen Melzer (2), Austria, def. Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, 6-3, 5-7, 6-1.
Nicolas Almagro (3), Spain, def. Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4.
Florian Mayer (6), Germany, def. Marsel Ilhan, Turkey, 6-4, 7-6 (5).
Fernando Verdasco (8), Spain, def. Pablo Andujar, Spain, 6-2, 6-3.
Juan Monaco, Argentina, def. Janko Tipsarevic (9), Serbia, 6-2, 6-4.
Cedrik-Marcel Stebe, Germany, def. Nikolay Davydenko (11), Russia, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
Marin Cilic (12), Croatia, def. Bastian Knittel, Germany, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-4.
Radek Stepánek, Czech Republic, def. Andreas Seppi (13), Italy, 6-1, 7-5.
Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Albert Montanes (16), Spain, 6-1, 3-2, retired.
ATLANTA CHAMPIONSHIPS
At Norcross, Ga.
Singles — Second Round
Kevin Anderson (2), South Africa, def. Michael Russell, U.S., 6-1, 7-5.
Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, def. Robby Ginepri, U.S., 6-7 (8), 2-6, 6-2.

WTA

BAKU CUP

At Baku, Azerbaijan
Singles — A-Zerbaian
Mariya Koryttseva, Ukraine, def. Anastasiya Yakimova, Belarus, 6-2, 7-5.
Galina Voskoboeva, Kazakhstan, def. Monica Niculescu (5), Romania, 7-6 (2), 6-2.
Ksenia Pervak (7), Russia, def. Vesna Aravane Rezaei, France, def. Elena Vesnina (3), Russia, 6-3, 1-0, retired.

CFL

EAST DIVISION									
	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt		
Montreal	3	3	0	0	109	68	6		
Winnipeg	3	2	1	0	66	53	4		
Hamilton	3	1	2	0	59	55	2		
Toronto	3	1	2	0	56	83	2		
WEST DIVISION									
Edmonton	3	3	0	0	103	55	6		
Calgary	3	2	1	0	76	75	4		
B.C.	3	0	3	0	75	97	0		
Saskatchewan	3	0	3	0	56	114	0		
WEEK FOUR									
Tomorrow's game All times Eastern Hamilton at B.C., 10 p.m. Edmonton at Calgary, 7 p.m. Sunday's game Saskatchewan at Montreal, 7 p.m.									

SCORING LEADERS

(x — scored two-point convert)	TD	C	FG	S	Pt
Whyte, Mtl	0	12	8	1	37
Duval, Edm	0	11	7	5	37
Medlock, Ham	0	5	8	0	29
Palardy, Wpg	0	5	7	2	28
McCallum, BC	0	6	7	0	27
Prefontaine, Tor	0	5	7	0	26
E.Johnson, Sask	0	6	4	2	20

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Philadelphia	19	8	4	7	24	16	31
New York	22	6	5	11	35	28	29
Columbus	19	7	5	7	21	19	28
Houston	20	5	6	9	24	23	24
Kansas City	19	5	6	8	24	25	23
D.C. United	19	5	6	8	24	30	23
New England	20	4	9	7	17	27	19
Chicago	20	2	6	12	20	25	18
Toronto	22	3	10	9	17	37	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Los Angeles	21	10	2	9	27	16	39
Dallas	21	11	5	5	27	19	38
Seattle	22	10	4	8	32	23	38
Real Salt Lake	17	8	3	6	23	12	30
Colorado	22	7	6	9	29	28	30
San Jose	19	5	6	8	22	21	23
Chivas USA	20	5	7	8	24	23	23
Portland	18	6	9	3	22	31	22
Vancouver	20	2	10	8	19	28	11

Note: Three points for a win, one for a tie.

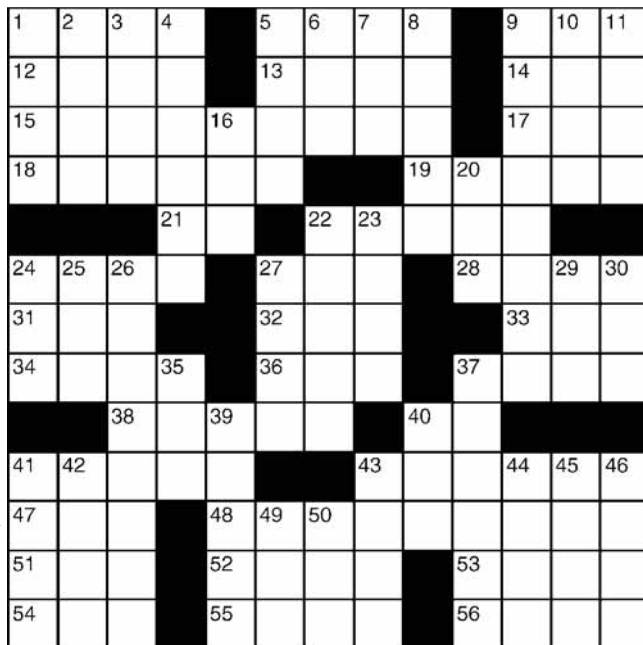
Crossword

Across

- 1 Macrame and origami
5 Spill the beans
9 Swine home
12 Old Italian money
13 Parks or Bonheur
14 Rage
15 "Animal House" event
17 Aviv preceder
18 Garb
19 "Monopoly" building
21 Therefore
22 "SNL" alumna Oteri
24 Bridge coup
27 Writer Buscaglia
28 Giant in a nightmare, maybe
31 Moray, for one
32 Under the weather
33 Towel designation
34 Post-bath application
36 Aviate
37 Halt
38 Wild West show
40 2009 Pixar movie
41 Backbone
43 Quiver contents
47 Funny guy
48 "Sleep well"
51 Potsdam pronoun
52 Sleeping
53 Merriment
54 Bumped into
55 Old letter opener?
56 Appear

Down

- 1 — Romeo
2 Urban disturbance



- 3 Horse's gait
4 Great cruelty
5 Cheese choice
6 Journal
7 Blond shade
8 Wash in a tub
9 Wait patiently
10 Genealogy chart
11 Holler
16 To and —
20 Acapulco gold
22 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
23 Sacred
24 Collection
25 Meadow

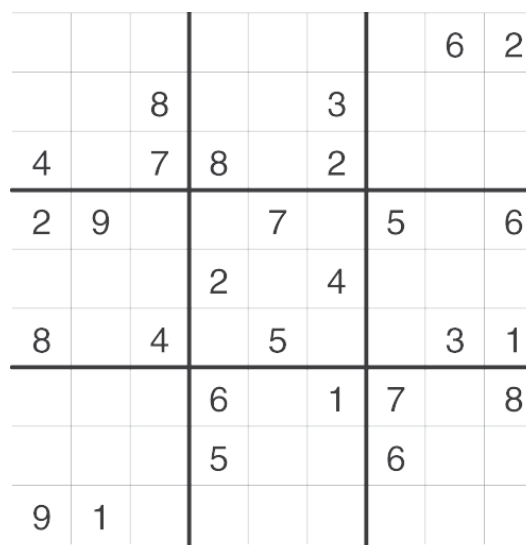
- 26 Fine
27 Biography
29 Carnival city
30 Kreskin's claim
35 Inmate
37 Parsley servings
39 "La Toilette" painter
40 Coffee vessel
41 Take to the pool
42 Gait
43 Finds the sum
44 Look lustfully
45 Roller coaster cry
46 Goblet feature
49 Sapporo sash

50 "— the ram-
parts ..."

Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



A look at the weather

TODAY Min 11° Max 19°
FRIDAY Min 7° Max 15°
SATURDAY Min 14° Max 22°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." WEEKDAYS 6AM



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20

Today, you don't have to use words to get your message across — your body language will be enough.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Any money worries you've had will fade today. You'll realize you were never as badly off as you feared.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You will be delighted when you discover a problem that's been worrying you has an easy solution.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You will be in a generous mood today and will do whatever you can to help those who've had misfortune.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23

You have been operating below your best, so raise your sights and your game.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Important people will be watching you closely today, so make sure they like what they see.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 There is serious work to be done today and if you don't want to exhaust yourself you must use your Libra charm to get other people to help you.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 As usual, you have been worrying for no good reason but your mood will take a turn for the better today.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

If you feel a bit down just think back to all the good times you have enjoyed. You'll do so again.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Ease back and don't worry so much about schedules and deadlines.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Life is fun, so why make it a chore? You will enjoy being the centre of attention today — and others will enjoy what you have to offer.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Give family and loved ones your full and undivided attention. Business can wait until later. ● SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest



WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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